



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

***Amendment***

LCO No. 8708

Offered by:

REP. O'ROURKE, 32<sup>nd</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 6997

File No. 769

Cal. No. 275

***"AN ACT CONCERNING TECHNICAL REVISIONS TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL STATUTES."***

1 After line 238, insert the following:

2 "Sec. 8. (NEW) (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 14-  
3 164c and 14-164i of the general statutes, the Commissioner of Motor  
4 Vehicles, in consultation with the Commissioner of Environmental  
5 Protection, shall develop: (1) Exhaust emission standards for diesel-  
6 powered motor vehicles; and (2) testing techniques, standards and  
7 procedures for emission control features and equipment installed on a  
8 motor vehicle with a gross weight greater than ten thousand pounds  
9 that is equipped with a diesel engine, including, but not limited to, a  
10 type I or type II school bus, that is registered or will be registered in  
11 this state. Such testing techniques, standards and procedures shall  
12 include, but not be limited to: (A) A requirement that on and after  
13 January 1, 2005, all such motor vehicles shall be subject to emission  
14 testing on a biennial basis, provided such testing take place at an  
15 official weighing area or other location designated by the  
16 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles; (B) the procedures to be followed for

17 vehicles that do not meet the exhaust emission standards, including an  
18 unreasonable cost of repair to bring any such vehicle into compliance,  
19 above which the commissioner may grant a waiver from compliance  
20 with such standards; and (C) a fee schedule for such testing. The  
21 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall adopt regulations, pursuant to  
22 chapter 54 of the general statutes, to implement such emission  
23 standards and testing techniques, standards and procedures. The  
24 regulations may also provide that in lieu of such testing, said  
25 commissioner may accept the results of any emission testing done: (i)  
26 By agreement with an owner or operator of a fleet of diesel-powered  
27 commercial vehicles licensed by said commissioner pursuant to  
28 subsection (f) of section 14-164c of the general statutes; or (ii) by any  
29 licensed motor vehicle dealer or repairer authorized by said  
30 commissioner to establish a diesel-powered commercial motor vehicle  
31 inspection station.

32 (b) The Commissioner of Public Safety, in consultation with the  
33 Commissioners of Environmental Protection and Motor Vehicles, shall  
34 develop an enforcement program under which any motor vehicle,  
35 other than a type I or type II school bus, traveling on a public highway  
36 in this state, that is emitting visible exhaust may be stopped by a  
37 member of the state police or a local police department and  
38 immediately tested for compliance with emission standards. The  
39 enforcement program shall include a schedule of fines for first and  
40 subsequent violations of emissions standards. The Commissioner of  
41 Public Safety shall adopt regulations, pursuant to chapter 54 of the  
42 general statutes, for the purpose of implementing the provisions of this  
43 subsection.

44 (c) The Commissioners of Motor Vehicles and Environmental  
45 Protection, in consultation with the Secretary of the Office of Policy  
46 and Management, shall study the feasibility of creating a diesel  
47 emissions reduction program under which grants would be provided  
48 to local and regional boards of education to replace old diesel-fueled  
49 school buses with newer buses and to retrofit existing buses with  
50 diesel particulate filters. Said commissioners shall evaluate the

51 feasibility of such a program with respect to its potential effect upon  
52 the emission of fine particulate matter, the potential reduction in sulfur  
53 dioxide and nitrous oxide emissions to be achieved under such  
54 program, and the resulting effect of such reductions upon the health of  
55 children in Connecticut, particularly children with asthma. Said  
56 commissioners shall submit their findings and recommendations to the  
57 joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance  
58 of matters relating to transportation and public health on or before  
59 February 1, 2002."